

<http://vodpod.com/watch/3807013-pope-calls-for-iraqi-bishops-to-improve-relations-with-muslims>

According to the **U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom**, Iraq's Christian population has fallen from 1.4 million in 2003 to between 500,000 and 700,000 in 2008. One Iraqi bishop says that the exodus of Christians from the country has been an alarming and saddening development. Mons. Shlemon Warduni Auxiliary Bishop of Babylon Iraq is a country with a very rich and very ancient culture. People really respect others and themselves. When we see people having to beg like this, become refugees, or emigrate to countries where they are not really respected, this hurts us very deeply in our hearts.